

~~34.~~ 34. A method for determining the allergenicity of a pre-selected substance comprising the steps of:

a. exposing a mast cell-line and/or basophil cell-line to said substance in the absence of a sensitizing agent; wherein said cell-line is capable of releasing cell-mediators in the absence or presence of an immunoglobulin sensitizing agent such that said substance, if an allergen, is capable of activating immunoglobulin independent release of said cell mediators or, subsequently, immunoglobulin dependent release of said cell mediators, depending upon the nature of the allergen; and

C1 b. determining the release of mast cell and/or basophil cell mediators in response to said exposure.

35. A method according to claim 34 wherein a potential allergen activates immunoglobulin independent release of said cell mediators.

36. A method according to claim 34 wherein said immunoglobulin is IgE.

*FA Suk* 37. A method according to claim 34 wherein said cell line is a high-secretor variant which when exposed to a preselected substance results in at least 3-45% mediator release.

38. A method according to claim 34 wherein said cell line is a secretor variant of RBL-2H3.

39. A method according to claim 34 wherein said cell line is pre-incubated with a marker.

40. A method according to claim 39 wherein the marker is tritiated 5-hydroxytryptamine, or histamine or  $\beta$  hexoseaminidase.

*OK* 41. A method according to claim 39 wherein the marker is  $^{14}\text{C}$  arachadonic acid.

42. A method according to claim 39 wherein the method comprises exposing said cell-line to a chromogen which changes color as a result of the presence of an immunogenic reaction.

43. A method according to claim 35 wherein the method comprises exposing said cell-line to an radioimmunoassay means for measuring release of mediators. *r*